The People's Korea

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"Amnesty" to Keep Kim Dae Jung in Prison for Another 20 Years

Special Envoys to African Continent

The DPRK is active in strengthening the cordial relations with the African nations as special envoys of Chief Executive Kim Il Sung are visiting the African countries and holding a series of talks with high-ranking officials there.

The special envoys are Vice-President Pak Sung Chul, Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Ho Dam, Vice-Premiers Chong Jun Gi and Kong Jin Tae.

In their talks with the special envoys, the leaders of the African Continent expressed satisfaction over the favourable development of the friendly and cooperative relations with the DPRK and extended full support to all the steps taken by the DPRK to reunify the divided country.

The following are highlights of their visits to the African nations reported by the KCNA by Mar. 7:

Vice-President Pak Sung Chul – Mozambique (Feb. 21–24), Zambia (Feb. 24–27), Zimbabwe (Feb. 27–Mar. 2), Angola (Mar. 2–)

Foreign Minister Ho Dam – Algeria (Feb. 23–25), Upper Volta (Feb. 25–27)

Vice-Premier Chong Jun Gi – Somalis (Feb. 21–25), Mogazio (Feb. 25–)

Vice-Premier Kong Jin Tae – Guinea (Feb. 25–)

• In his talks with Vice-President Pak Sung Chul on Feb. 22, Mozambican President Samora Moses Machel said that the main point in achieving the peaceful reunification of Korea is to carry into effect the proposal for founding the Democratic Confederal Republic of Koryo put forward by President Kim Il Sung.

Zambian President Kenneth David Kaunda on Feb. 24 said in his talk with the Vice-President that the stand of the Zambian Government and people supporting the Korean people's cause of national reunification is firm and invariable. He also declared that all the foreign troops must be withdrawn from south Korea.

Defining the visit of the special envoy to Zimbabwe as "very fruitful", Zimbabwean President Canaan Banana on Mar. 2 said that Zimbabwe supports the efforts of President Kim Il Sung and the Korean people for peaceful reunification of the country.

• Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid on Feb. 24 declared in his talks with Foreign Minister Ho Dam that the Algerian Government and people will, as in the past, so in the future, too, continue to invariably support the struggle of the Korean people for national reunification.

Expressing his belief that the reunification of Korea would surely be achieved as long as there is the wise leadership of President Kim Il Sung, Head of State of Upper Volta Saye Zerbo said on Feb. 26 said that though Upper Volta and Korea are far away from each other, he would make positive efforts to expand and strengthen the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries.

• In his talks with Vice-Premier Chon Jun Gi, Somali President Mohamed Siad Barre on Feb. 23 said that Somalia would always support all the steps taken by the DPRK.

Saying that Somalia has relations only with the DPRK, the Somali President declared that there can be no change in this.

Dip. Relations with Nauru

The governments of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Republic of Nauru on Feb. 25 agreed to establish diplomatic relations at ambassadorial level, a Feb. 27 KCNA report said.

The KCNA said that the two countries set up diplomatic relations "with a desire to develop friendly and cooperative relations."

The Republic of Nauru is the 107th country with which the DPRK has established diplomatic relations at ambassadorial level.

The country is a coral island situated in the central area of the Pacific Ocean and she has a small population (about 7,300) and its territory is also very much limited (21.2 square kilometers). It was liberated on January 31, 1968.

Foreign Papers on "Team Spirit '82"

Newspapers of socialist countries, in their recent issues, castigated the massive combined U.S.-south Korea war maneuvers codenamed "Team Spirit '82" as "a provocation against the peaceful policy" of Pyongyang and charged Washington and Seoul with trying to make "a test attack"on the DPRK.

• The Chinese paper "Liberation Army Daily" Feb. 26 carried a commentary entitled "Provocation Heightening Tension" and called upon Washington and Seoul to stop the military exercise at once.

The paper said: The north side of Korea has clearly stated that it has no intention of invading the south, called for realisation of the reunification of the north and the south in a peaceful way, not by force of arms, proposed to the U.S. to have a dialogue for the replacement of the armistice agreement with a peace treaty.

Referring to the fact that there do not exist at all such things as the "threat of southward invasion" and "provocations" from the north, the paper further said that the joint maneuver is a provocation against the peaceful policy of the north side of Korea.

• In its article dated on Feb. 17, the "Tribune" of the German Democratic Republic, condemning the U.S. and the Chon junta for trying to make a test attack on the northern half of the Korean Peninsula, said: As a U.S. base of aggression, south Korea has been representing "vital interests of the

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As Many As 36 SR-71 Air Space Violations in Feb.

Pyongyang on March 3 severely condemned Washington for committing aerial espionage acts by a high-speed spy plane SR-71, the official KCNA reported the same day.

According to the KCNA report, a high-flying photo-taking SR-71 flew into the DPRK sky above the Kangryong Peninsula southwest of South Hwanghae Prov. "at around 11 hours 6 minutes on March 2." It also flew into the airspace across the military boundary east of Kosong, Kangwon Prov. "at around 12 hours 59 minutes" on the same day.

Referring to the fact that acts of aerial espionage against the DPRK by U.S. spy planes SR-71s are being committed almost every day after the U.S.-south Korea combined war game dubbed "Team Spirit '82" opened on Feb. 13, another KCNA broadcast monitored here on Feb. 25 said that those acts of espionage numbered "as many as 16" in February alone.

The broadcast said that a SR-71 on Feb. 24 flew into the sky above Kangryong Peninsula, and the sky above the military boundary east of Kosong "from 12 hours 38 minutes to 56 minutes."

On Feb. 25 the U.S. again infiltrated a spy plane into the sky across the military boundary east of Kosong, to fly deep up to the sky above Kangryong Peninsula along the Military Demarcation Line "from 11 hours 25 minutes to 47 minutes."

The frequent aerial espionage acts by SR-71s forced Pyongyang to warn the U.S. "If the U.S. does not want to repeat a bitter setback it sustained in its past military provocations against our people, it must immediately stop all hostile acts against our country."

Mr. Kim Dae Jung and other political prisoners, including prisoners of conscience, are still in prison, kept virtually incommunicado, despite the much-advertised "amnesty" on Mar. 2. After all, nobody has become free.

South Korea under Gen. Chon Du Hwan retains all trappings of a fascitic state. All fascistic laws which underfoot the fundamental human rights of the people, remain intact. The National Security Law; the Law on Assembly and Demonstrations; the Five Labor Laws; the Criminal Code; etc. Police forces were reinforced under the pretext of making use for the curfew lifting. There is no freedom of press, academy, education, etc.

It is a crime punishable with death to criticize the junta or call for north-south reunification although Gen. Chon proposed what he termed "national reintegration under a common constitution."

The Mar. 2 "amnesty" granted by the Seoul junta to 2,863 prisoners including Mr. Kim Dae Jung is a move to conciliate criticism at home and abroad of severe political suppression in south Korea.

It is intended to conceal its supernature as the Kwangju murderer.

Internationally, the "amnesty" is aimed at creating facade of internal consolidation in a way attractive to foreign investments.

No Virtual Change

Among those affected are 298 political prisoners. They break down to 13 for the Kim Dae Jung incident; 143 for the Kwangju incident; 1 for the Pak Jung Hi assassination incident; 5 for the Pusan-Masan incident; 23 for the Sabuk coal mine incident; 3 for the Chongye textile workers' union incident; and 110 for violating martial law. No student is included.

Mr. Kim Dae Jung

In the so-called "clemency" the life term of Mr. Kim Dae Jung was commuted to 20 years in prison and the death penalties of five Korean compatriots in Japan reduced to life terms.

Is there any change in these reduction? Mr. Kim Dae Jung and others are still in prison for *will perhaps die there.*

In an interview with a Seoul correspondent of the Japanese daily "Mainichi Shimbun," Li Hui Ho, wife of Mr. Kim Dae Jung said on Mar. 2: "What difference is there between life imprisonment and 20 years in prison? The commutation is meaningless under he is aquitted." Similar comments

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Pyongyang Brands "Amnesty" As "Farce"

The DPRK on Mar. 4 described what Seoul called "amnesty" for leading democratic figure Kim Dae Jung and 2,862 others, as a "tricky political farce" intended to sidetrack heavy pressure from within and without and to bury the Kim Dae Jung issue in oblivion.

Commenting on the "amnesty," Rodong Sinmun (organ of the CC of the Workers' Party of Korea), in its signed commentary entitled "Hypocritical 'Amnesty' for Flouting Public Opinion," also defined it as "a product of a political plot" to save the dictatorial rule in south Korea from an ever deepening crisis and give a shot in the arm of the military fascist dictatorship.

Judging from the fact that the "amnesty" was granted by the Chon junta on the first anniversary of its inauguration, the paper said: "It was cheap claptrap tactics for raising the price of his dirty body, delivering himself out of isolation by winning over the popular sentiments and staying in power."

Emphasizing the inconsistency of the "amnesty," the paper charged the Chon junta with refusing to release the political prisoners thrown behind bars under the "National Security Law" and keeping in custody democrats who should have been released under the pretext that they show no "sign of repentance."

Referring to the announcement of the Chon junta on the "commutation" of the life imprisonment given Kim Dae Jung by the "amnesty", the commentary said "Kim Dae Jung is not a criminal to be made an object of such buffoonery as 'commutation' or someone's 'mercy'."

The paper urged the Chon group to revoke the illegal penalties

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Building of Socialist Economy and Its Development (5)

II. Democratic Reforms

(Continued from the previous issue)

Nationalization of Industries

Together with Land Reform, nationalizstion of industries was one of the important tasks for the anti-imperialist and anti-feudal democratic revolution. The development of revolution generally requires nationalization of industries.

Before liberation, the Japanese and comprador capitalists monopolized most of Korea's key industries, including transportation, communications, banking and foreign trade. For example, as of 1940, 94 percent of the total industrial companies (capitalized at over 1 million *yen*) were funded by Japanese, while only 6 percent were Korean-owned ones. In 1944, Korean-owned mines produced only 20 percent of Korea's total copper ore output, 10 percent of its gold and lead, 5 percent of its zinc, 1 percent of its iron ore and black lead output. Japanese-owned mines accounted for almost all the remainder. In commerce, which was believed to be owned more by Koreans than other economic fields, Japanese accounted for 80 percent of the total corporate capital.

This reality prevented the development of a national economy industries were nationalized, colonial exploitation and the economic base of exploiters in industries were eliminated.

On August 10, 1946, the Law on the Nationalization of Industry, Traffic, Transport, Communications and Banking was proclaimed. The Law declared:

"All enterprises, mines, power stations, railways and other means of transportation, communications, banking, commercial and cultural establishments owned by the Japanese state, corporations, or private persons or by traitors to the Korean nation, shall be confiscated without compensation and transferred to the ownership of the Korean people, namely, to the state."

The law defined industrial enterprises to be nationalized as those owned by Japanese and comprador capitalists. National capitalists were exempted from nationalization. This differed from socialist nationalization which confiscates capital in general.

Since national capitalists were suppressed under the Japanese capitalists, they had anti-Japanese feelings, even they were included in the exploiter class. They could become a motive force of the anti-imperialist and anti-feudal democratic revolution. National capitalists not only became a force in the revolution but also played a certain role in the construction of a new society.

The important problem which formerly colonial countries face in the way of changing their societies to socialist ones after national liberation, is economic self-reliance. Nationalization of industries owned by the imperialists and reactionaries does not necessarily mean guaranteeing people's material living. In order to guarantee people's living, the role of national capitalists in the national economic development must be recognized together with that of state-run industries. Of course, national capitalists suppress workers. However in a society where the economy is mostly socialized and the masses of the people, including workers, hold political power.

Anyway, exempting national capitalists from industrial nationalization was essential for enabling the revolutionary forces to overpower the counter-revolutionary forces, by uniting as many anti-imperialist forces as possible.

The Law also clearly designated the objects and means of nationalization. The means of nationalization was confiscation without compensation and the objects were production facilities and means of transportation, communications, commerce, foreign trade and finance, monetary and cultural organizations—all the property Japanese and reactionaries had.

The reason for confiscation without compensation was that if the state had bought all the objects of confiscation or parts of them, it would have had to carry a heavy financial burden which would have force the state to yield to the imperialists. Only when the nationalization of industries without compensation was carried out, could the economic base of the Japanese and domestic reactionaries be eliminated and an independent state could be built.

If the objects of confiscation had been limited to the means of production, or if partial nationalization had been carried out, the economic base of the Japanese and domestic reactionaries would not have been completely liquidated. Economic fields are deeply interrelated. If any one of them remained Japanese-owned, others would inevitably have had to rely on the Japanese-owned sector. The Japanese would possibly have used their position as a plitical means. In order to built an independent national economy, all the property of the Japanese and domestic reactionaries had to be nationalized.

As a result of the Law on the Nationalization of Industry, 1,034 fiscated, and nationalized. As of 1946, state-run industries accounted for 72.4 percent of the total industrial output. Thus, Korea's industries were mostly socialized.

Nationalization of industries in the Republic was characterized by the fact that it was carried out through confiscation without compensation all at once.

In Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Rumania and Bulgaria, nationalization of industries was carried out in several stages, while Poland and Yugoslavia completed it at one sweep. Property of the enemies of the revolution, fascists, pro-enemy elements, war criminals was confiscated without compensation but industries owned by national capitalists were nationalized with compensation. In China, industries owned by foreigners were confiscated without compensation and were nationalized. After the establishment of the People's Republic of China in 1949, they came to be owned by the people's government. At that time, industries owned by bureaucratists were confiscated without compensation by the government. China peacefully transformed capitalist commerce and industries into socialist ones, after changing them into several capitalist forms, properly using and restricting their capitalist functions. Administrative management and leadership and workers' supervision were applied in the reform.

The characteristic feature of the nationalization of industries in the Republic derived from the fact that the democratic forces were strengthened after the liberation and that most important industries had been owned by Japanese monopolies in pre-liberation days. After the liberation, in factories and enterprises which had been owned by the Japanese before, workers' factory (mine) management committees were organized. They were led by provincial people's committees. This paved the way for the nationalization of industries.

As a result of the nationalization, the base for planned economic development was built and industrial production was rapidly increased. In short, a firm base for the development of a socialist economy was built.

In 1946-1949, the average annual growth rate of the total industrial output stood at 49.9 percent. The growth rate of the production of state-run and cooperative industries reached 61.5 percent.

The Provisional People's Committee of North Korea also proclaimed the Labor Law on June 24, 1946 and the Law on Equality of the Sexes on July 30, 1946.

The Labor Law provided for an eight-hour day for factory and office workers, equal pay for equal work for both male and female workers, banned the employment of children, and established a system of holidays with payment, and measures for the preservation of health for factory and office workers.

The Sex Equality Law completely liberated all the Korean women from colonial and feudal bondage, and opened a road for their political freedom and rights, and a road that allowed their positive participation in the construction of a new society.

Together with these, other democratic reforms were also carried out in education, culture, health and others. All the remnants of imperialist and feudal systems were completely liquidated and a people's democratic system was established.

As a result of nationalization of industries, small-scale commerce and capitalist economy remained together with the established socialist economic system which was dominant in Korea's economy. The leadership of the worker-peasant union was further strengthened, as well as the united front of democratic forces. These results became preconditions for the transition to a socialist revolution.

(To be continued)

A 1946 file photo: Women welcome the proclamation of the Law on Sex Equality on July 30, 1946, an epochal measure designed to elevate their status.

GROWTH RATE OF INDUSTRIAL OUTPUT WITH 1946 AS 100

	1947	1948	1949
Gross	154	218	337
State-run and Cooperative Sectors	170	256	422
Private Sector	110	117	113

Source: Economic & Judicial Institute of Academy of Science, "Our Country's Post-Liberation Economic Development", Academy of Science Press, Pyongyang

A 1946 file photo shows banner-carrying workers demonstrate at an unnamed place celebrating the proclamation of the Labor Law which came on June 24, 1946. The Law provided for an eight-hour day, equal pay for equal work for men and women, banned the employment of children and made mandatory both holidays with payment and measures for the preservation of health for workers.

Pyongyang's Proposal for 100-Man Caucus on Reunification

Pyongyang on February 10 called for a 100-man round-table conference to discuss the old issue of north-south reintegration. The proposed number includes 50 politicians from the north and the equal number from the south, including overseas persons.

The proposal was made by the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland, chaired by vice-President Kim Il.

The list of the proposed participants does not include the present south Korean rulers with Gen. Chon Du Hwan as their mastermind.

(1) The Present State of the Reunification Issue

The division of the Korean Peninsula, caused by the United States in 1945, is already 37 years old, and remains yet to be ended.

-The sufferings of the people are growing more serious as shown in the tragic plight of those separated families in two parts of the land.

-With a cross-peninsula concrete wall erected by the south Koreans, mistrust and antagonism are building up between north and south.

-The threat of nuclear holocaust has become real as war may break out at any moment.

-Now looming is a growing likelihood of Korea being left at the mercy of big-power rivalry, with the oldest homogeneous nation permanently left divided.

(2) Main Reasons behind the Tragic Situation

The principal reasons behind the continuing tragic situation relating to the reunification issue are to be sought in the total commitment of the south Korean rulers to the perpetuation of the division. Their number one considerations are the interests of American and other foreign forces.

-Their opposition to reunification is clear in their determination to keep American military presence in south Korea which is the main obstacle to the reunification effort.

-Their preoccupation is to perpetuate themselves in power.

(3) The Mission of Seoul Juntas, Past and Present

-The Syngman Rhee "regime":
It was intended to show to the public the division of Korea.

-The Pak Jung Hi junta:
Gen. Pak Jung Hi took power for the sole aim of preventing the south Korean people from moving toward reunification.

-The Chon Du Hwan junta:
Even at the risk of bloodbath, Gen. Chon grabbed power. As shown in the Kwangju massacre of some 2,000 citizens, he proved enemy of reunification.

(4) Broad-Minded and Lenient Stance

Out of the sole desire for reunification, Pyongyang showed broad-mindedness in talking face to face with the south Korean anti-communist rulers.

Even toward Gen. Chon Du Hwan totally disqualified to talk about the issue, Pyongyang took a lenient attitude in giving him an opportunity to make a new start toward patriotism.

So far, to its regret, Pyongyang has received no affirmative response. Gen. Chon is now openly showing an unprecedented confrontation policy to the north, launching "Team Spirit'82" war games.

(5) The Possible and Workable Solution

In face of the present anti-reunification moves on the part of the south Korean junta led by Gen. Chon Du Hwan and supported by the Americans, the workable and possible solution is to tap national conscience still springing from among south Korean patriotic and democratic figures, including those abroad.

By pumping out such deep-running national sense of conscience, it is possible to arrange for a constructive forum to discuss the reunification.

(6) A Joint Conference of 100 Persons from North, South and Abroad

As a consultative body on north-south national reunification, the proposed joint conference shall comprise 50 persons from the north and another 50 from the south, including overseas compatriots.

Topping the northern list are three vice Presidents Kim Il, Kang Ryang Uk and Pak Sung Chul.

The southern list is led by former "presidential" candidate Kim Dae Jung, former chief executive Yun Bo Son and former "premier" Kim Jong Pil.

Among the named overseas representatives are Chongryun Chairman Han Duk Su and former south Korean "foreign minister" Choe Dok Sin.

The list also comprises Christians, Buddhists, writers, poets, lawyers and unionists.

The 100-man conference shall not function as a bilateral meeting but shall become multilateral round-table talks.

Any north-south differences should be put aside and other differences in residence, belief, and organizational affiliation as well should be put on the back burner.

The conference shall discuss the plan to set up a bi-system confederation and north-south cooperation and exchange.

Deaths in the "Purification Camps": Korea Communique

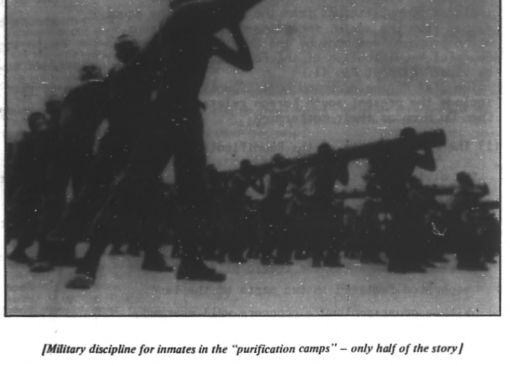
EDITOR'S NOTE: Korea Communique, an English-language magazine published by the Japan Emergency Christian Conference on Korean Problems, reported in the September 14 and October 26, 1981 issues, that many people have been killed and tortured in the "purification camps" and that all south Korea is turning into a prison.

The level of brutality remained untold, both domestically and overseas, the magazine added.

Chun Doo-hwan's military-backed ... – and totally arbitrary determination of who would be released, and who would be held under the frightening new "Social Protection Law" which did not take effect until December 1980.

Some of that story has begun to emerge. It is known, for instance, that over 200 of the democratic labor movement's dismissed leaders underwent unthinkably rigorous "training." The severe drills, hard labor, and running for up to 7 hours a day – with not enough time allowed for eating or even toilet use – caused physical breakdowns in countless cases.

The following, however, is the first in-depth, first-hand account of the shocking, wider picture. Once again, the government's brutalizing deception is laid bare; no one can read of the "misery and agony beyond description" herein without sharing the writer's pain, sorrow, and burning anger ...



[Military discipline for inmates in the "purification camps" – only half of the story]

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"I Only Want to Tell the Truth... It Was a Tragedy!"

About a year ago I was brought in to this ... Division. To be precise, I arrived in the Division Agusut ..., 1980. At that time Martial Law was in effect and President Chun Doo-hwan was Chairman of the Special Council on National Security *(kukbo-wi)*. Based on Martial Law Measure #13, a joint reconnaissance of police and military personnel arrested "corrupt citizens" in the streets for "purification education."

Arrested without warrant, these were people who had a previous offense on their record or just a tattoo on their body. They were supposed to go through an educational program called *sam-ch'ong* ("three purifications") improvised by the Martial Law Command. *Sam-ch'ong* means to purify three elements: body, mind and soul.

The military officials, police staff, and public prosecutors on the Martial Law Command screened and categorized those rounded up in four groups: A, B, C, and D. Group A was supposed to face a court martial. Group B was to go through a one-week program of *sam-ch'ong* plus 3 to 6 months' labor service. Group C had to take a 4-week *sam-ch'ong* program only. Group D consisted of the weaklings and handicapped, and were supposed to be freed after being admonished.

As far as I know, nobody was put in Group A. Most of those rounded up were placed in either Group B or C. A tattoo on the body or an old offense was sufficient for them to be put into B or C.

With handcuffs on, we (in group B) were taken to the ... Division. From the moment we got out of the trucks we were beaten or kicked unmercifully. Unloaded in an area surrounded by double barbed-wire fences, soldiers with M-16 rifles or light machine guns vigilantly watched over us. We were treated like pigs and dogs. We were trampled on by those heavy army boots, and with heavy clubs the soldiers cracked open heads and broke bones. It was a hellish scene. Over a loudspeaker could be heard a voice saying, **"You may kill them! You may kill them!"** After hearing this some of us fell to the ground like corpses.

Fear gripped us as we considered that there must have been a plot and that we might all be killed without anyone knowing it. Yet we were as helpless as spilt milk.

The nightmarish first day passed. On the second day the soldiers' mistreatment and abuse were the same. It might not have been the soldiers' fault because they had no choice but to follow orders. Nevertheless, I felt vengeful. "If I survive, I'll take vengence on the soldiers," I thought.

As the two weeks passed, I was convinced that the soldiers were too hard on us, no matter what orders they received. Even though I was not indicted by any criminal law, I felt that it was wrong to break a law, and that nobody should be forgiven who breaks a law.

On August ..., 1980 about 200 (out of 500) *sam-ch'ong* trainees, having repented of their sins to God, decided to lead a new life and were baptized as sons of God. I could not lift up my head nor move my body freely, but learned that various mission organizations visited us. We burst into tears and wept openly. I'm sure that tears came from longing for parents, wife, children, or for a new life.

On August ..., 1980 the purification education ... completion was held. However, it turned out that not all of the 500 involved were safe. *Five members died from physical punishment and 30 or so were injured. It was a tragedy. It was hard to believe that the government through its purification program to make new people would actually kill people.* Upon the completion of the purification education the inmates were screened again. Nobody knows for sure by what criteria the inmates were rated. It seemed to me that only lucky guys were set free. Among those freed were insincere trainees and a person who had more than 20 offenses. The inmates were not happy with the unfair evaluation. But still it was not that bad because we, from the beginning, had been notified of 3-to 6 months' labor services.

The remaining 240 inmates (out of 500) were transferred to the ... Battalion. On arrival at the unit the regimental colonel made a speech in which he promised to release us at ..., 1980, which meant three months of labor service ahead of us. It was rather reassuring news for us all.

Afterwards the inmates, soaked with perspiration under the hot sun, labored strenuously to construct military facilities, waiting for the day of release.

On ..., 1980, we were again screened for release. Forty patients, totally unable to work, were discharged first. Then 102 inmates (out of 200) were set free. The 98 remaining wept in the church but nobody could comfort us. We felt deceived. We had worked very hard in vain.

One thing to note here is that I had been called into the office to help with some paper work in the middle of September. There I saw letters written by the major general of the ... Division, which would be mailed to the inmates' homes. The content of the letter included the following application form: "such and such enlisted in the voluntary labor service unit after the successful purification education." ***In fact, the inmates had never volunteered to labor in the unit, nor did they know of such an application form.***

On ..., 1980, the remaining 98 inmates were transferred to the ... Battalion ... November on the front line was cold, like winter. At the end of November one of the inmates fled. Of course he was caught in the end by military police who lay in ambush for four days. The military police brought him back – he was tied around with rope like a dried fish – to show us what would happen to a runaway. The would-be escapee was dipped in cold water and whipped; his face and body were bruised all over. At that time we thought him a fool. Later in a court martial he was sentenced to ten months in prison and sent to the Anyang Correctional Center. With this the remaining inmates became docile and obedient to orders.

In a real sense, we were fools who had abandoned ourselves. Without any criminal offense we were forced to labor in bitter cold with shovels and pickaxes. It was 20 degrees below zero; sometimes even 30 degrees below zero (°C). The lives of the inmates were full of misery and agony beyond description. It was just like the concentration camps described in novels or movies.

Enduring these hardships we saw the old year fade and the new year (1981) beginning. We could not wait until ... which would be the end of our term (as previously determined).

But then another thing happened to make us believe that we were mere fools. For the inmates reading newspapers or listening to the radio was prohibited, but we learned that Martial Law had been lifted on January 24, 1981. We expected our release but again the inmates were relocated (this time on January 31st). Inmates from the 50th Division in the Taegu area, the 11th Paratrooper unit, and the 1st Division were put together and relocated. I was very anxious and impatient to know what was going on. The reason was that the movement of inmates occurred even after Martial Law had been lifted, and at a time when the inmates were only four days short of completing their promised terms.

This time I was transferred to the ... Battalion ... where we 90 inmates are being held. On the third day after our relocation we began to realize what we had suspected was coming.

On ..., 1981 two military policemen and one officer ... called on each inmate, demanding that we should sign on the paper. The paper indicated that since we were inmates who might violate the criminal law again, we, should be held under two years' protective custody. The paper came from the purification committee with the seal of the Vice-Minister of Justice. The inmates, including myself, resisted the demand but we were forced to sign on the paper under the gun-points of the military police. Now just think about this carefully for a moment. Is it possible to hold a person at gun-point without indictment or to put a person under protective custody against his free will in a democratic society? How can a public prosecutor give two years imprisonment based on fabricated papers without meeting the person in question? **On the basis of what wrongdoings are we isolated from society?**

We were not alone in receiving this inhumane treatment. Scattered inmates were sentenced to protective custody, ranging from one to five years, and labored in military bases at the front lines. With these realities in mind I could find no way to restore my inner peace. It almost drove me crazy to think of my family back home. Moreover, I did not understand why no differentiation was made between the inmates who came in on August ..., 1980 and those who came in January, 1981. Why were we both handled under the same protective custody procedure? Our group had been taken in six months earlier (August, 1980). It was long before the Social Protection Law became effective. Why did they apply the new Social Protection Law to us?

One newspaper, in January 1981, asserted in vain that the inmates for purification education now on military bases should not be affected by the new law. Nevertheless, 15,000 inmates were sentenced to protective custody. How could this happen in a nation ruled by law or in a democratic society? It now seems quite clear that, during the six months since our arrest, they had just been waiting for the Social Protection Law.

The life of inmates held under long-term protective custody was indescribable. No visitors were allowed. When we wrote we were forbidden to mention our protective custody. Of course there

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

was heavy censorship. We were not supposed to write our address on the envelope. I just gave up. What are our eyes, ears, and mouths for? They had become useless!

As we suffered from physical pain and anguish, our cases were finally transmitted to the Ministry of Justice. Still we were held in the military unit.

From March . . . , 1981, visitors were allowed to see us for 30 minutes at a time. The visiting place was noisy from crying and weeping. Family members were surprised to learn about the inmates' long-term protective custody. They felt indignation but had no place to appeal.

We anticipated a pardon on the inauguration day of President Chun Doo-hwan, but that did not happen. Unexpectedly, the government pardoned some of those involved in the Kwangju incident. *Why not us? What crime had we commited?* It made absolutely no sense that the government would not pardon us inmates, but instead some criminals and those involved in the Kwangju incident. Again on Buddha's birthday the government granted amnesty to others *but not to us!* We were in utter despair.

Finally in the first Congressional (National) Assembly under the 5th Republic our cases were discussed. An unknown assemblyman of the Democratic Korean Party asked the administration a question. "On what legal grounds were the recipients of purification education sentenced to protective custody? And how have they really been treated in the army? "

The Minister of Justice answered that inmates held in the army now had been investigated individually and were sentenced to protective custody based on collected data and information. He said that such custody did not represent a legal problem and that those sentenced to one year's protective custody would be released before October, 1981. *What a lie that was!* I could not believe that each inmate as investigated and that each person was sentenced on legal grounds. One inmate had a record of ten criminal offenses plus two terms of purification education and he was sentenced to only one year's custody. Some other inmates had no criminal record at all but were sentenced to from two to five years. I realized how arbitrary the law was. Moreover, the inmates were not permitted to appeal or submit their cases to a higher court.

I will burden you with the hard-luck stories of the inmates no longer, but I believe you can imagine how these people feel about their misfortunes. I really can't understand what the purification education (begun in August, 1980) was aimed at!

The new government pays lip-service to the *new era, a new nation,* and a *new constitution.* Yet while doing that 15,000 inmates on the front lines are totally isolated from society and might be buried forever.

If these wrong-doings are what the new constitution in the new era mean, I'll bite my tongue and commit suicide. Whom can I trust, what hope do I have in this absurd situation? There is no guarantee that you won't be punished on a false charge. I am without hope, at the end of the rope! My experiences for a year in this place have done me no good. My purification education can be summed up in three words: eating, digging, and sleeping. I remember President Chun Doo-hwan saying one day that he would do nothing for which people would denounce him, and if there is any problem, he would be sure to correct the situation. How come President Chun leaves us in this miserable situation? Why are we sacrificed as political scapegoats?

I have heard that a proper camp for us has not yet been arranged. That's why we are entrusted to the army now. But in November, 1981 the inmates will be moved to a remote place in Kyongsang Province. How terrible it will be for us to be confined in such a place!

Dear Mr. . . . , I will close now. To be sure, I don't intend to stir up trouble or to take any action against the government by this letter. I only want to tell the truth as it is with the hope that we can become a new nation in a new era in the true sense . . .

S. Korea Is Turning into Prison

"Security management" through "preventive detention" under the new Social Security Law – innocuous bureaucratic terms to some ears . . . but the effect of this and other legislation under Chun rule is to "turn the country into a prison", as described below. Provides new details on the "purification camps".

Expanding the "ROK" Prison System

At the beginning of June 1981, a group of four prisoners attempted to escape from the courthouse where they were on trial, and three were successful, causing a great stir. Police using military-style tactics surrounded the area where they were hiding, so finally they could not hold out any longer and gave themselves up.

These prisoners' advance planning, including the cooperation they received from their families and friends, was organized in great detail, as if it were a matter of life and death. What could be the reason for preparing such a daring and organized escape attempt, when they knew that a failed attempt would be followed by terrible retaliation and punishment?

It is said that they wept during the trial when they received 3-year sentences of imprisonment plus 7 years' *"protective detention"* added on. While they were still in hiding after their escape, one Seoul newspaper, explaining the background of this incident, commented that the main reason for their action may have been their "last chance" psychological state, feeling that to live or die was the same thing under such a long prison term.

From a different perspective, this escape attempt can be seen as a manifestation of the will of the unfortunate and alienated classes to struggle against the forced "purification education" and the Social Protection Law legislated by the Chun Doo-hwan military junta when they undertook "social purification" after their May 17 1980 *coup d'etat.*

On December 18, 1980, the Social Protection Law was passed by the Legislative Assembly – the tool used by the Chun Doo-hwan military clique to mass-produce unjust laws. What are the contents of this law?

The object of the Social Protection Law is habitual criminals, gangsters, persons thought harmful to society, mentally disturbed persons, drug addicts, alcoholics and various others judged not completely cured by regular prison sentences; this law provides for their long-term detention and isolation.

Comparing this with the Social Security Law promulgated earlier in July 1976 by Yushin dictator Park Chung-hee, for "security management" and restriction of crimes against national security, the most important point to note is that the newer Social Protection Law extends "security management" to ordinary criminals also. According to this evil law, a person who is sentenced to 10 years' protective detention on top of a 7-year sentence must – following 7 years of penal servitude – be held in isolation in a place of detention for 10 years more. In other words, the person must live under sentence of 17 years. The judge in such a detention case has absolutely no discretionary right to reduce the term. He can only decide on the prosecutor's request for detention, whether to impose it or not. With only two possible protective detention periods – 7 years or 10 years – by the end of the combined period of original sentence plus protective detention, the majority of persons – those who have not already died in prison – will be so advanced in age that they will be returned to society as incompetents.

This cruel law was made through deception of the people: the regime advertised it as similar to laws in Western Europe for the isolation and treatment of drug addicts and alcoholics, reporting that during the first 6 years of enforcement of a system of protective detention in Germany (1934–1939), 1,300 cases out of 7,700 yearly received sentencing. The period of 1934–39 was precisely the time of Nazi rule under the infamous Hitler.

With their propagation of this law, whatever its motive, and the attempt to justify it with this kind of example, the direction of the Chun Doo-hwan military group is clearly indicated. Based on Chun's own Justice Ministry figures, the number of previously convicted persons falling under the jurisdiction of this law totals 20,450 yearly, including 20,000 habitual criminals, 300 mentally disabled or mentally ill persons and 150 drug addicts. Given this annual total of persons subject to the Social Protection Law – 3 times the total in Nazi Germany over a 6-year period – it can be surmised that this regime is moving in the direction of brutal fascism.

Furthermore, the Chun administration is said to be forcing "purification education" on convicted prisoners in the name of helping these persons to "pull themselves together." With the intention of cleaning "hooligans", innocent citizens are also seized, locked up in military camps and compelled to undergo harsh military training; many young people have been flogged to death, or been shot when they could endure the beatings no longer and tried to escape; this is a fact which is widely known.

Even though beatings and torture were everyday business for the Park Chung-hee regime, such brutality was not legally permissible; so the regime preserved its appearance in this respect. Since the arrival of Chun Doo-hwan on the scene, however, with enforcement of "purification education," such assault has been legalized. It is said that prisons and places of detention in south Korea are being turned into human hells.

Reportedly the authorities are now building protective detention centers in accordance with the provisions of the Social Protection Law, to accommodate prisoners under that law. A facility planned to be located on 860,000 *pyong* of land (*pyong* = 3.3 square meters) in North Kyongsang Province (Chungsong-kun, Jinbo-myon), is expected to be the largest forced-labor camp of its kind in the world. On that 860,000-*pyong* site, by the end of this year alone, 10,000 *pyong* of land will be used to construct 3 detention centers, each housing 2,000 persons (6,000 in all), and construction will be expanded year by year. At one time apparently it was planned to build these facilities on several islands, but for some reason this was changed to concentrate them all in one place. South Korea's 22 existing detention centers and prisons were not enough for their purposes, so they are creating this kind of collective, forced "living hell".

As mentioned above, "security management" was being carried out in regard to political prisoners prior to the more recent enforcement of the Social Protection Law for ordinary prisoners. This was done through the Social Security Law promulgated by the Park regime. As is already well known, under the Park administration large numbers of democratic and patriotic people were falsely accused and suffered the hardship of imprisonment under the notorious National Security Law, Anti-Communist Law, and laws on rebellion; many of these persons have still not been freed, and continue to suffer a wretched life behind bars. These many present and former political prisoners are placed in the uncertain situation of never knowing when or where they may be re-arrested and imprisoned under the Social Security Law or have their current prison term extended.

These days the Chun military clique is using a new suppressive policy in dealing with political prisoners. Young students arrested in demonstrations are being charged under the National Security Law. On December 18, 1980, the Chun regime abolished the notorious Anti-Communist Law, which had become the object of international criticism. However, at the same as they were making propaganda overseas about the abolition of that law, they were strengthening and changing the National Security Law to absorb all the key elements of the defunct Anti-Communist Law. Now they are applying the strengthened law to students and intellectuals, using the noose of "security management" in addition.

As the Chun Doo-hwan military junta proclaims slogans for the achievement of a just and democratic welfare state, in fact they are bent on, and are moving step by step to establish, a military state. Through the reign of Park Chung-hee in the 1960's and 70's, various kinds of irrational and pathological conditions accumulated in society, and people were helplessly pushed along the road to complete militarization; the fact that the same situation continues is revealed by these two laws – the Social Protection Law and the Social Security Law.

Our fellow patriotic citizens inside and outside Korea should know more clearly the nature of the Chun military clique as an anti-national, criminal group. Having brought about an absurd and contradictory situation where many people are sacrificed and made to live in misery, they ignore their responsibility to attend to this situation, and instead they use their illegitimate power to push aside and imprison all the conscientious intellectuals, religious persons, youth and students who oppose them. In the end, however, they will face the people's stronger resistance. Their crimes, which leave not even the smallest breathing room and turn society into a living hell – our society where human beings live and culture is transmitted to succeeding generations – must be condemned in the name of national history.

Site of the newly-built facility to accommodate inmates undergoing "purification education" — forced labor — as provided for in the "Social Protection Law; located in North Kyongsang Province.

S. Korean Monthly "Sin Tong-A"

"Why Are We Dancing Talchum Dances?"

For New Society

(Continued from the previous issue)

A dancing ground presents a lively scene. *Talchum* dances are a potential motive power to enable people to display energy.

The inherent characteristic features of *talchum* dances – to express truth about society, to enable people to enjoy in groups and display energy–explain the reasons why a ground of *talchum* dances is located in the centre of a village and why the dances are danced in a circle. Because of these reasons, *talchum* dances captivate young people and develop the culture of Korea in a correct direction.

Nationalistic and Democratic

What *talchum* dances seek is to create a true culture in this land and ultimately to build a true society for the nation. This relates to trends in the world against the background of the times. Here is a historical awareness that we should critically examine our own things and the wisdom of the people to build a new society.

The true nature of *talchum* dances should be found in the fact that they transcend the dimensions of a simple pastime for self-improvement, a temporary romantic fashion in university life or of simple opposition to Western culture and an effort to restore our own things.

A new idea of uniting things Korean and things popular will be born.

For Foundation of Fair And Abundant Society

The main forces for the development of history are the people. Only when culture belongs to the people, it will become meaningful.

It is the task of all the people living in this land to restore energy of the politics at life, economy and the culture of the people which have been buried in the course of modernization and under conditions of national split. Orthodoxy of a national culture can be sought in the people who inherit culture as the soil of national culture. The substance of popular culture should be found in folk culture.

Talchum dances are not temporary folkways which sooner or later disappear but they remain among the people as a medium of social culture. *Talchum* dances can concentrate energy in creating a culture which can artistically express people's life and their social consciousness. The creativeness of the people is barnyard manure to support a fair and abundant society.

Talchum dances in rural communities couldn't but degenerate in the early period of commercial capitalism.

It was not because of the inevitability of historical development. It was because irrational or unhealthy politics, economy and culture weakened the energy to create, inherit and possess a culture.

To revive and correctly inherit *talchum* dances means to inherit the tradition of *talchum* dances like *"ture"* (a kind of mutual aid association to help each other to make up for labor shortage during the busiest farming season) which was an expression of people's consciousness of community life.

The following tendencies should be done away with as early as possible: to create a culture alien to the people, to directly introduce foreign culture and accept and propagate it, to promote decadent culture titilating the peripheral nerves of the people, and to admire exotic highbrow ideas.

To combat the above-mentioned trends in culture and to create a new culture for the community can be achieved through movements including *talchum* dances.

In order to reap fruits from *talchum* dances popular among the people in all walks of life, activities to form a new *"ture"* should be strengthened.

To form a new *ture* means to create tradition and inherit it. Young people are joining on a dancing ground, thinking that *talchum* dances are the best form in which to embody the above-mentioned idea. As long as such fresh historical consciousness exists, *talchum* dances will be able to create wider dancing circles in this land. (Concluded)

Talchum dances danced on a university campus

Korean Paintings

"Lonely Angler"

By Kang Hui Maeng (1424-1483)

NEWS DISPATCH FROM PYONGYANG

FEB. 1

*Sayr Zerbo, Head of State and Chairman of the Military Committee of Redressment for National Progress of the Republic of Upper Volta, met Kim Ryong Yong, DPRK ambassador to Upper Volta.

Declaring full support to the proposal for founding the Democratic Confederal Republic of Koryo put forward by President Kim Il Sung, the head of state said that the U.S. troops must be withdrawn from south Korea, its society democratized and the policy of anti-communist confrontation renounced.

He expressed satisfaction over the favorable development of the relations between Upper Volta and Korea.

FEB.4

*President of the Yemen Arab Republic Ali Abudullah Saleh met So Jong Won, DPRK ambassador to the YAR.

The president said he was convinced that the friendly relations between the people of the Yemen Arab Republic and the Korean people under the wise leadership of President Kim Il Sung would develop favorably in the future, too.

FEB. 6

*Andre Kolingba, President of the Military Committee for National Redressment and Head of State of the Central African Republic, met DPRK ambassador to his country Li Man Sok.

Noting that the proposal for founding the Democratic Confederal Republic of Koryo was a very excellent one, the head of state said that the Central African Government was deeply impressed by the struggle of the Korean people for the country's reunification and national unity.

FEB. 8

*Manuel Pinto da Costa, President of Sao Tome and Principe, met the delegation of the Workers' Party of Korea headed by Kang Sok Sung on a visit to his country.

The president said that his meeting with President Kim Il Sung in 1975 marked an important occasion in the development of friendly relations between the two parties and peoples.

The president declared that the party, government and people of Sao Tome and Principe would as ever support the Korean people's cause of national reunification.

The struggle for reunification of Korea is not only the struggle of the Korean people but the struggle of the world people who love peace and justice, stressed the president.

He stated that Sao Tome and Principe would have no relations with the south Korean puppets.

FEB. 11

*Joao Bernardo Vieira, President of the Revolutionary Council of Guinea Bissau, met Sim Jae Du, ambassador of the DPRK to his country.

Expressing satisfaction over the favorable development of the friendly and cooperative relations between Guinea-Bissau and Korea, he declared that Guinea-Bissau would in the future, too, make active efforts for the development of these relations between the two countries.

FEB. 12

*An agreement on commodity delivery and payments for 1982 between the governments of the DPRK and the Hungarian People's Republic was signed in Budapest.

*Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi met DPRK ambassador to India Ryu Tae Sop.

Expressing satisfaction with excellent development of friendly and cooperative relations between India and Korea, the Indian prime minister said that India would as ever make positive efforts to strengthen the bonds of friendship with the government of the DPRK and the Korean people.

FEB. 13

*A delegation of the Radio and Television Broadcasting Committee of the DPRK headed by Li Jong Nam left Pyongyang by air to attend the 8th meeting of the Committee for Cooperation among Broadcasting Organisations of the Non-Aligned Countries scheduled in Yugoslavia.

FEB. 17

*A physical culture delegation of the DPRK headed by Kim Yu Sun, Chairman of the Korean Physical Culture and Sports Guidance Committee, left Pyongyang by air for a visit to the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia.

*A delegation of the WPK headed by Rim Chun Chu, Member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the WPK and Secretary of the Central People's Committee, left Pyongyang by air for a visit to Rwanda.

*A government delegation of the DPRK headed by Vice-Premier Kong Jin Tae left Pyongyang by plane for a visit to the Sudan.

*A delegation of the Foreign Ministry of the DPRK headed by Kim Chung Il, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs, left Pyongyang by air to attend the New Delhi Consultations of Developing Countries on North-South Issues and South-South Cooperations to be held in India.

(Continued on page 7)

Korean Movie

"Talmae and Pomdari" Based on Koguryo Legend

The Korean Film Studio has recently produced a feature film, "Talmae and Pomdari" based on one of the numerous legends concerning Mt. Taesong in the suburbs of Pyongyang.

The movie shows the devotion of Koguryo people to their country and brilliant cultural traditions through a story about a rainbow roof-tile, symbolic of their ingenuity and wisdom.

The people of Koguryo were not only resourceful and intrepid, but they regarded it as the most honourable thing to devote themselves to the cause of defending their country.

In those days, foreign aggressors frequently invaded their country setting their eyes on the vast land of Koguryo and its precious treasures. Masons built an impregnable fortress on Mt. Taesong and made a roof-tile by cutting it out from a huge rock through generations of hard work and put it on the Changsu Pavilion.

The mysterious tile radiated a rainbow beacon whenever the frontier was endangered, arousing the people to fight the enemy.

A story of a lad and a girl revolves around the tile which is believed to have a mysterious power to defend their country:

Meeting of Lad and Girl

The movie begins with a scene where Pomdari who distinguished himself in a three-year war against the intruders returns to his native village of Sangbawi and has an impressive reunion with his sweetheart Talmae.

They enjoy a happy, peactiable life full of dreams. But their happy life is overshadowed.

The enemy spies Nurichi and Teremona, disguised as roaming hunters, father and daughter, win the "confidence" of General Hong Gol in a crafty manner. Teremona is adopted as "Mistress Pong Son" and Nurichi was employed as his coachman. Living in the General's family, they try to find out the secrets of the rainbow tile.

Caught in a plot, the General cruelly kills Talmae's father Im Don, who firmly defended the rainbow tile for ten years as the chief guard of the Taesongsan Mountain Fort.

Im Don is charged falsely with treason, but in the last moment of his life he calls the names of his daughter and her fiance, asking them to defend the magic-powered tile to the last.

Talmae, condemned as a "traitor's" daughter, hides herself in a deep mountain and trains herself to be a warrior to avenge her father.

Pomdari, the would-be son-in-law of the "traitor," feels his life at stake but he returns to the army to vindicate at any cost Im Don who died an ignominious death and defend the rainbow tile.

His aim, however, is exposed because of Talmae's blunder and is jailed but he gives more thought to the endangered tile than to his life.

About that time a national martial art tournament is held in the presence of the king.

The spies avail themselves of this opportunity to win in the tournament: Nurichi wants to assume the post of chief guard of the fort and destroy the mysterious tile.

Learning of this, Pomdari breaks out of the prison and runs to the contest and has a fierce fight with Nurichi. Talmae, too, rushes there and fights Teremona who is trying to set fire to the Changsu Pavilion.

The spies' true colours are exposed during the fight of the loyal lad and girl and the rainbow tile is safeguarded. Talmae kills Teremona but poisoned by the latter's sword, dies.

The film shows Koguryo people's fervent loyalty to their country.

Talmae (left) dies, asking in her last words Pomdari (right) to defend the rainbow tile.

▲ A bout between Pomdari (right) and spy Nurichi (left) at martial arts contests

◀ Talmae (right) warmly welcomes Pomdari (left) back to his native village from a 3-year campaign against foreign aggressors.

Legend

Agumrang

(Continued from the No. 1,081 issue of The People's Korea)

How long they flew they did not know; the girl was wet through and the tiger sweated profusely, and soon they reached a steep cliff.

Halted before it, the girl prayed, with her eyes growing misty.

"Rocks the fluid iron is cooled. Open my route if you take mercy on my country."

The girl cried, striking the rocks. Then the rocks covered with centuries-old moss cracked. In the cave there was a beautiful world like a dream and a fire stone glittered brightly. The girl was beside herself for joy, and taking the fire stone, shed tears.

Taking it in her bosoms, she rode the tiger and flew towards the castle. At the time, the staff officer who barely recovered from his wound aimed the arrow at the girl. Then the bow was given to his agent and he shot the arrow. Agumrang fell down from the tiger, with a shriek. The tiger trembled with anger and killed the agent.

The staff who hid like a rat saw Agumrang crawling ahead with the fire stone in arms.

"You shall be killed at my hands," the rascal approached her, angrily.

At the moment, Moryanga who had been roaming to see his sister, came to her rescue and pounced upon the bastard and killed him.

"Sister!" he rushed to Agumrang.

She barely opened her eyes, looking up at her beloved brother. "This fire stone quickly, Moryanga. . ." The brother who was burning with wrath, took his sister in arms and rode to the castle.

Thus the smith was set free by the order of the war minister and started again to work at the oven. Moryanga descended the horse with his sister and said, "Father!"

The smith hugged his daughter, sobbing.

"It's you my daughter, Agumrang!"

She gave the fire stone to him, saying, "Father, look this fire stone. Let's melt iron. I want to see you make the bell."

The girl put the stone into the oven. Instantly a flame rose from the oven and it began to boil. The girl gazed at the flame, with a happy smile, and dropped her glance and closed her eyes. The wind of late autumn woefully scattered leaves around.

Moryanga cried sadly, "Sister, sister!"

Tears rolled down the wrinkled cheeks of the smith.

Time passed and the self-ringing bell was hung in the belfry. One day the bell rang, resounding throughout the Kingdom. The enemy was invading.

The gallant soldiers and militias and all people under the war minister repulsed the enemy. The cheers of victory echoed over the hills and the smith went up to the belfry. He said:

"Agumrang, you made it! You are a true daughter of the country."

The minister rode to the belfry and grasping the hands of the smith, said with emotion.

"Your daughter was really heroic. The story of Agumrang will be retold as long as our country prospers."

From that time on, the self-ringing bell served to warn the invasion of the enemy, making the Kingdom ever-victorious in battles.

(Concluded)

(Continued from page 6)

*Mauno Koivisto, President of the Republic of Finland, met DPRK ambassador to his country Yu Jae Hah.

The president said that reunification of Korea is a very important problem.

He stressed that he would make efforts to further develop excellent relations existing betwen Finland and Korea.

FEB. 20

*A delegation of the Foreign Ministry of the DPRK headed by Kim Jae Suk, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs, left Pyongyang by air for a visit to Maldives.

*A government economic delegation of the DPRK headed by Chon Il Chun left Pyongyang by air for a visit to Angola.

*A delegation of the Korean Journalists' Union headed by Kim Gwang Su left Pyongyang by train to attend the 5th Congress of the Soviet Journalists' Union. (KCNA)

Rodong Sinmun Commentary

Pyongyang Framed in So-Called Hit-Man Team Allegations

Pyongyang on Mar. 4 defined the so-called "case of an international assassination plot" to kill Gen. Chon Du Hwan as a "sheer lie" which has no truth at all, and a "fabrication" trumped up in the back room of the blue house.

Rodong Sinmun, organ of the CC of the Workers' Party of Korea, in a signed commentary dated that day, referred to the purpose of the Chon junta in fabricating the case.

The official paper said that the fabrication is "the last resort" aiming at dampening the desire of overseas Korean compatriots for alliance with communism and for national reintegration and their mounting movement against the dictatorship and for democracy, preventing them from visiting the DPRK.

Strongly denying Chon's allegation that the DPRK financed the plot, the paper said: "If there is anyone who attempted to take the life of Chon Du Hwan, he must be within the ruling circles of south Korea as was the case with the assassination of the former dictator."

The following is the full text of the commentary:

These days the south Korean puppets spread all of a sudden a strange rumour that a "case of an international assassination plot" against the life of the traitor Chon Du Hwan occurred in Canada and are frantically launching a vicious anti-communist smear campaign, groundlessly connecting it with us.

When put together, reports circulated by the puppets say that Choe Jung Hwa, an overseas compatriot, in collusion with a few Canadians, plotted to assassinate the traitor Chon Du Hwan abroad and Choe Jung Hwa received this "directive" during his visit to the DPRK.

After rigging up this "case," the puppets published one after another an announcement of the "director of the police headquarters," a statement of the "minister of culture and information" and a statement of the "central consultative council for national unification," doing their level best to make it appear credible to a certain degree.

But no one of sober thinking and sound observation will believe the groundless "case." The so-called "case of international assassination plot" brought forward by the puppets is a sheer lie which has no truth at all and a fabrication trumped up in the back room of "Chongwadae."

As for terrorist assassination of an individual person, it has nothing to do with our policy. Originally, we who hold that the popular masses are the master of everything and decide everything do not welcome any terrorist act against an individual person but consistently oppose it.

To be frank, it is south Korean puppets themselves stooping to any infamy in suppressing the popular masses and removing their political adversaries for their power who make a practice of committing terrorist acts and perpetrate such acts without batting even an eyelid.

If there is anyone who attempted on the life of Chon Du Hwan, he must be within the ruling circles of south Korea as was the case with the assassination of the former dictator.

Canadians who were reported to be arrested by the Canadian authorities as "prime movers" in the "case of an international assassination plot" said that they had never attempted it and the Canadian police announced that the "case" has nothing to do with us.

As for Choe Jung Hwa, he visited the homeland once in 1980, together with more than ten *Taegwondo* instructors, for an exhibition performance of *Taegwondo* and has no connection with us.

This is the fact. Therefore, foreign press reports said that we have no connection with the "case" and the south Korean puppets themselves could not produce any proof to convince the world people but are merely repeating guess and supposition.

Facts clearly show that the "case of international assassination plot" noisily clamoured about by the puppets is one more preposterous and ridiculous anti-communist burlesque.

It is not hard to gather why the south Korean fascists are kicking up dust by inventing such a groundless lie.

Today the military fascist rule of the Chon Du Hwan clique is shaking to its very foundation in south Korea. As is seen in the declaration made public recently by students of Seoul University, the pro-U.S. pro-Japanese flunkeyist treacherous policy and brutal fascist terror rule of the military fascists have given rise to ever more vehement indignation and resistance among the south Korean people and students.

Now the shout "tear off murderer Chon Du Hwan!" is ringing out from among the south Korean people and overseas compatriots and the tide of the anti-dictatorship, anti-Chon Du Hwan struggle is rising with each passing day. All this is striking the puppets with irrepressible uneasiness and fear. The traitor Chon Du Hwan cannot sleep in peace even in south Korea but is hiding himself like a homeless cat, not knowing when he would be carried out retaliation for the crimes he has committed against the nation.

Further, the policy of our Party and the Government of the DPRK for independent and peaceful reunification and the active support of the world peace-loving people to the righteous struggle of our people for its realisation are driving the south Korean fascists further to bay. The convocation of a 100-man joint conference proposed recently by the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland as a national salvation step for breaking through the deadlock in the way of reunification is enjoying the warm welcome and active support of the compatriots at home and abroad and arousing deep sympathy in foreign countries. On the contrary, the so-called "proposal" brought forward by the south Korean fascist clique was cold-shouldered in face of our just proposal and the puppets' treacherous and splittist manoeuvres are becoming an object of ever more vehement denunciation and rejection by home and foreign public opinion.

This is why the puppets rigged up a false case to wave off the spearhead of resentment and resistance of the people directed against them by misleading public opinion and tone down the discontent of the people and, at the same time, incite north-south confrontation and step up the "two Koreas" plot.

They also cooked up such a shocking case in a foolish attempt to block the great influence of our patriotic stand and just national salvation proposal for reunification upon the overseas compatriots and conceal their splittist and treacherous nature.

Analysis of "Amnesty"

(Continued from page 1)

were made by wives of the five Koreans from Japan whose terms were reduced to life imprisonment.

If the Chon junta intends to grant "amnesty" in its true sense, Kim Dae Jung and all other prisoners should be set free unconditionally and democracy restored, including those in custody for the extension of the Public Security Law including So Jun Sik and Kang Jong Kon.

Democracy Turned Down

The "amnesty" is in response to the growing popular sentiments for democracy.

Wada Haruki, assistant professor at Tokyo University and representative of the Japan-South Korea Solidarity Committee said on Mar. 2 in an interview with the Japanese daily "Asahi Shimbun": "The 'commutation' is aimed at toning down public sentiments for democracy."

A foreign diplomatic observer here of Korean affairs said that though students still keep silence, they will likely start their anti-Chon demonstration in coming April and May. The coming 2nd anniversary of the Kwangju incident in May, he predicted, would provoke possible anti-Chon student demonstrations.

The Christian community, too, is beginning to show solidarity with the students' movement.

Referring to the alliance of Christians' community with the students, the Nov. 27 1981 issue of the Asan Wall Street Journal wrote: "With the detentions, resulting in trials of students and jail sentences, the country's Protestant community is beginning to show signs of concern and impatience. A group of wives and mothers of arrested dissidents and students have organized a new campaign, saying it is time Christians resumed the political struggle."

According to the Seoul National University authorities, over 30 kinds of handbills were distributed on its campus during one year and four months from September 1980 to December 1981. (Jan. 25 issue of Dong-A Ilbo)

One of issues which motivated student activism is the political illegitimacy of Chon Du Hwan. Student leaflets and manifestos had portrayed Chon as a "fascist dictator."

Popularity Gained?

Second, the Chon utilized the "commutation" as a popularity-booster.

From the beginning of this year, the Chon junta has taken what it called "flexible measures" including the curfew lifting and the proposed easing of student dress code.

However, those steps are a far cry from helping gain popularity and eliminate his image as Kwangju murderer.

The Mar. 3 issue of the Japanese daily "Asahi Shimbun," in its editorial, said: "Most people has not yet forgotten the Kwangju incident and there is criticism that various repressive measures whose number is bigger than under the past regime, suppress the people."

In addition, at least 3,000 people are in jail in newly set-up detention centers under the Social Protection Law without any trial or charges being brought.

Introduction of Foreign Loans

Third, the Chon junta has to al-

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imposed on Kim Dae Jung and other democrats and patriots and promptly acquit them.

South Koreans Here

Meanwhile, Kim Jae Hwa, Chairman of the Japan Headquarters of the National Congress for the Restoration of Democracy in South Korea and the Promotion of Unification (Hanminitong), and Chong Jae Jung, Chairman of the Committee for Rescuing Kim Dae Jung issued a talk in joint name on Mar. 2 in connection with the "amnesty."

The statement said that the "commutation" is a trick of Chon Du Hwan and it is aimed to veil his criminal massacre in Kwangju, escape public censure at home and abroad of his violation of human rights and improve his image externally.

In the last part of the statement, the two organizations urged the

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U.S." in the Asian continent for score of years. Since Reagan's assumption of office the tie-up between the U.S. administration and the Chon "regime" has become closer.

The Czechoslovak paper "Rude Pravo," dated Feb. 17, said in an article entitled "Dangerous Plan" that south Korean dictator Chon Du Hwan is playing the role of an aggressive shock force for the U.S. in the fabrication of the Washington-Tokyo-Seoul triangular military alliance. It also said that Washington's aggressive plan is a dangerous play with fire which could prevent them from visiting the DPRK and deliver itself from a miserable position it has landed itself in due to the further isolation from and rejection by the compatriots.

The groundless slander the south Korean puppets are hurling at us, clamouring about the "directives of the north", "offer of funds" and "connection with underground terrorist forces," is a third-rate drama to impair the ever rising international prestige of our Republic and becloud our image among the world people.

In this way the puppets try to cover up their dirty colours as murderers and fascist terrorists and lay the blame at other's door. But, by this means they can never fool people or shirk the responsibility for their crimes.

The case of the Chongpan printing house" in 1946 and the cases in which the traitor Pak Jung Hi attempted to inflict baseless crimes upon Kim Dae Jung, Yun I Sang and other democratic figures and overseas personages all proved to be fabrications to bring their

tract foreign loans.

The south Korean economy is in the third year of worst recession in two decades. Even high-ranking economic officials admitted that the economy has no chance of recovery at the moment.

The Mar. 3 issue of the "Mainichi Shimbun" said that if the Chon "regime" fails to recover from recession, workers will strike back. There is a possible re-play of the Pusan-Masan Incident, which preceded the overthrow of the Pak Jung Hi junta.

In order to get to smooth water, there must be vast amounts of economic aid from abroad, which requires a show of "political stability."

Especially, this is true of its aid request to Tokyo, amounting to $6 billion.

Hailing the "amnesty", Japan's Foreign Ministry said in its statement on Mar. 3 that the "amnesty" will improve the climate for economic negotiations and hoped that it will lead to the expansion of Japanese investment in south Korea. (The Mar. 3 issue of Asahi Shimbun)

Chon junta to immediately and unconditionally release Kim Dae Jung and all other political prisoners and to step down from power.

The statement also demanded that the Japanese Government stop all moves helping Chon Du Hwan to suppress people and execute the policy of war, while giving up a principled settlement of the Kim Dae Jung issue.

Pol. Parties Here

The Japan Socialist and Japan Communist parties denounced in their statements published on Mar. 2 the reduction of Kim's prison term as a "gesture" on the part of the Chon junta which wants to pose as a democratic "regime."

The JSP said that Gen. Chon had to take the action under pressure from movements at home and abroad calling for democratization but the action was aimed only at deceiving the people of the world.

It may easily ignite a major war.

• A recent issue of the Bulgarian paper "Otechestven Front" said that "Team Spirit '82" had nothing to do with the "reunification."

The paper emphasized that the combined military exercise is an open and shameless military provocation against the DPRK, a challenge to the Korean people's desire for peaceful reunification of the country and a systematic move to further heighten the tension in that part of the world.

• The Japanese paper "Nepszabadsag" said that the purpose of "Team Spirit '82" was to demonstrate strength against the DPRK and increase tension.

murderous nature into bolder relief.

It was widely known to the world that the so-called "August 15 shooting case" in 1974 was a drama produced and performed by the puppets themselves.

Even if the traitor Chon Du Hwan rigs up one hundred more "cases," he can not shirk public denunciation and curse for his Kwangju massacre and shuddering bloodbath of fellow countrymen.

No matter how hard the puppet clique may try, the international position of our Republic will rise higher and higher, overseas compatriots for democracy and national reunification will continue to make vigorous advance.

The Chon Du Hwan clique must give up its foolish attempt to maintain its dirty power by suppressing even overseas compatriots, not content with fascist suppression in south Korea, and apologize to the south Korean people and the whole nation for its anti-national crimes and step down from "power."

The further it goes against the desire of the nation, the earlier its destruction will come.

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